# Mastering Discussion Texts with Max and Pip

*Learning objective: To understand the structural and linguistic features of a formal discussion text, as per Class 6 English curriculum requirements.*

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of discussion writing. Max the monkey can help you with the logical structure, while Pip the caterpillar can help you with the vocabulary!

**What is the primary purpose of a discussion text?**

To present a balanced view on a complex issue by exploring different perspectives before reaching a conclusion.

**Which linguistic feature is used to show possibility or necessity, such as 'might', 'could', or 'should'?**

Modal verbs.

**What should the introduction of a discussion text contain?**

A clear statement of the topic and an outline of the different sides of the argument.

**Why must a discussion text remain impartial?**

To ensure the reader receives a fair and unbiased overview of the topic without being persuaded by the writer's personal opinion.

**What is a 'counter-argument'?**

An argument or set of reasons put forward to oppose an idea or theory developed in the text.

**Name three examples of formal cohesive devices used to link arguments.**

Furthermore, however, consequently, in contrast, or on the other hand.

**What type of tone should be maintained throughout a discussion text?**

A formal and objective tone.

**True or False: A conclusion in a discussion text should introduce brand new arguments.**

False. The conclusion should summarise the main points and provide a final perspective based on the evidence presented.

**Why are statistics or expert opinions important in a discussion text?**

They provide evidence to support the different viewpoints being discussed.

**What are 'causal conjunctions'?**

Words used to link ideas by showing cause and effect, such as 'because', 'therefore', or 'as a result'.

**What is the main difference between a discussion text and a persuasive text?**

A persuasive text argues for only one side of an issue, whereas a discussion text explores multiple viewpoints.

**What is the role of a paragraph break in a discussion text?**

To clearly separate different arguments, evidence, and viewpoints to help the reader follow the structure.